accused officer and allowing cross-examination are integral part of such inquiries. Further, the victims are informed about the outcome of the inquiry and, if requested, the copies of the findings are also provided to them.

Suitability of tracks for super-fast trains

431. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that existing tracks are not suitable for super-fast trains;

(b) if so, whether steps are being considered so that the permitted speed limit of all super-fast trains including Rajdhanies are not required to cut down speed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof keeping in mind the risk and safe travel of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. However, the permitted speed depends on route classification, rolling stock, signaling and interlocking system, track structure etc.

(b) The sections are kept free from speed restriction unless it is required for maintenance, renewals or some urgent unforeseen circumstances to ensure safety of traffic.

(c) Regular track renewal works are planned, sanctioned and executed to replace the same on age-cum-condition basis and subject to availability of funds.

Railway Projects from Tamil Nadu

432. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of railway projects received from Tamil Nadu during each of the last 3 years;

(b) the action taken by Government thereon;

(c) the details of the works undertaken for improvement and expansion of railway network in Tamil Nadu during the said period; and

(d) the expenditure incurred thereon during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

High Speed of trains on dilapidated rail tracks

†433. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the speed limit of trains on railway tracks should not exceed from 40 to 45 km. per hour but approximately 5000 trains are running at the speed of 90 to 140 km per hour on dilapidated rail tracks which can be a cause of major accident any time; and

(b) if so, the details of steps taken by Government to prevent occurrence of such kind of accident?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The permitted speed depends on route classification, rolling stock, signaling and interlocking system, track structure etc.

Maintenance works are carried out regularly depending upon the need. For ensuring safety of traffic, track is inspected regularly and corrective action taken promptly wherever required. Speed restrictions are also imposed for ensuring safety, if the situation so warrants.

Delta fast passenger train accident

434. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed/injured in the Delta Fast Passenger train which is reported to have jumped the rail near Hyderabad;

(b) the precise reasons for the mishaps; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.